with marked effect as borne out by laboratory tests carried out before and after the treatment. The work has been suspended temporarily from the 23rd January 1932 and will be re-commenced, funds permitting, in Chingam 1108. The filariasis survey, commenced in Trivandrum town in July 1930, was completed in December 1931. Of the 15,040 blood samples examined, nine per cent. proved positive for micro-filaria. The survey was conducted with the co-operation of the Municipal Council which has initiated mosquito control measures. From May 1931, epidemiological and vital statistics work was started in the Vilavankod taluk under the direction of Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai. The field staff has been, by means of house to house enquiries, correctly registering all cases of births, deaths and infantile mortality, and infectious diseases, both acute and chronic. The vital statistics collected show a remarkable improvement on the figures recorded by the *Provertikars*. The importance of the work being done in the Vilavankod taluk cannot be over-estimated, as correct vital statistics are essential to the planning of public health work. The first Health Unit in the State was organised at Neyyattinkara from the 1st Edavam 1106, under the control of Dr. N. Krishnan Tampi, who was appointed Medical Officer of Health. A health survey has been conducted in the area, now comprised within the Unit, extending over 28·22 square miles and containing a population of 39,850. The Neyyattinkara Municipal Council is co-operating in the work. The Assistant Surgeon in charge of school medical inspection has surveyed all the schools within the Unit and he is treating the pupils found defective on examination. The two public health nurses specially trained in Ceylon have started maternity and child welfare work with an adequate staff of midwives. The services of Mr. M. O. T. Aiyangar of the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine have been secured on loan for one year for entomological work in connection with malaria and filariasis. He has recruited the laboratory and field staff required and commenced work. The Medical Entomologist conducted two local investigations, one at Padmanabhapuram to study the effect of deforestation on malaria and the other at Suchindram in regard to the possible recrudescence of guinea-worm infection there. Mr. P. Kumaran Nayar, Health Officer under the Trivandrum Municipal Council, was granted a Rockefeller Foundation scholarship for Fellowship studies at the John Hopkins University, Baltimore, and he proceeded to America at the beginning of January last.

Village Panchayats.

24. Mention was made in my predecessor's address at the last session to the steps taken to organise Village Panchayats under Regulation VII of 1100. Six villages were, in consultation with the Dewan Peishkars, selected for the constitution of Village Panchayats in the first instance, *viz.*, Bhutapandi and Nedumangad in the Trivandrum Division, Paravur and Samburvadakara in the Quilon Division and Ettumanur and Perumbavur in the Kottayam Division. Notifications under Section 3 (3) of the Regulation declaring the above *pakuthies*

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except Samburvadakara, villages for the purposes of the Regulation were published early in February last. In regard to Samburvadakara alone, petitions were received from the local people objecting to the organisation of the Panchayat. A sum of Rs. 6,000 has been provided in the budget for the current year for payment of contribution under Section 44 (3) of the Regulation to the village funds. The organisation of Panchayats in other places will be considered after the working of those to be now constituted has been watched for some time.

Education.

25. The total number of educational institutions in the State rose in 1106 by 58, and the number of pupils under instruction in them by 7,010. The College of Science was further affiliated in the B. A. Course with Zoology as the main and Botany as the subsidiary subject. French was introduced, as a temporary measure for two years, as one of the second languages for the Intermediate Course in the Science College, and a part-time teacher appointed. In the College for Women, Sanskrit was introduced as a compulsory second language for the Intermediate Course. Physical training under a full-time Lecturer trained in the Lady Willingdon Training College for Women was introduced in that college. The syllabuses for the English School Leaving Certificate Course were revised to fall into line with the scheme adopted in the Madras Presidency and the revised syllabuses in the compulsory subjects were approved and introduced. In each of the Physics and Indian Languages Departments of the Science College and in the English Department in the Arts College, one Tutor was granted leave and other facilities to prosecute higher studies in Europe

Travancore students have for some years past been experiencing considerable difficulties in the matter of getting admission to the Engineering College at Madras. Endeavours to have a few seats in that institution reserved annually failed. The Hindu University at Benares maintains an Engineering College and its degrees are recognised by the Government of India. The authorities of that University have agreed to reserve at least four seats for Travancore students every year in the Electrical Engineering Course, two seats in the Industrial Chemistry Course and one each in the Mining and Metallurgy Courses. In consideration of this, Government have sanctioned a donation of Bh. Rs. 1·25 lakhs as well as a recurring annual grant of Bh. Rs. 10,000.

The expenditure on the educational activities controlled by the Director of Public Instruction amounted to Rs. 49·09 lakhs in 1106 against Rs. 42·21 lakhs in 1105, the large increase being due to the disbursement during the former year of the arrears of grant and salaries at the enhanced rates to the staff of vernacular schools, private and departmental. The net expenditure on education rose from Rs. 33·54 lakhs in 1105 to Rs. 40·47 lakhs in 1106. The average net cost of education to Government per head of the population was 22 chackrams 4 cash in 1106.

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